

**AMENDMENT**

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Kindly amend the specification, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

Page i, lines 2 to 7, kindly rewrite the paragraph thereat as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial no. 09/622,951, ~~now allowed,~~ filed October 17, 2000 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,713,068 on March 2, 2004, ~~August 24, 2000,~~ which is the U.S. national phase of international patent application PCT/FR99/00453 filed March 1, 1999 and published as WO 99/44633 on September 10, 1999, which claims priority from French Application 0002800, filed March 3, 1998, each of which are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.